

FIRE DEPARTMENT NEWSLETTER

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DEPARTMENT MESSAGE

Spring has sprung!

As we look forward to warmer weather and brighter days we also start to tackle spring cleaning projects; make sure safety is part of your plan!

An article from the [NFPA](#) was shared with me, and it talks about 6 key tips to safely tackle spring cleaning; I'd like to share some highlights with you.

- ◆ **Properly use and store gasoline.** Never use gasoline as a cleaner or to break down grease. Store gasoline in a proper container and in a detached garage or outdoor shed.
- ◆ **Carefully dispose of rags with paint and stain.** Never leave cleaning rags in a pile; hang outside to dry. Put dried rags in a metal container that is tightly covered. Keep containers of oily rags in a cool place, out of direct sunlight and other heat sources.
- ◆ **Use/ store flammable and combustible liquids with care.** Never smoke when working with these liquids. Keep liquids in their original containers; tightly capped or sealed.
- ◆ **Inspect grills to ensure they're in good working order.** Make sure grill is free of grease or fat buildup. Clean out any debris. Check propane tank gas hose for leaks before using it for the first time each year.
- ◆ **Keep debris well away from your home.** Remove and dispose of branches, weeds, leaves, pine needles, etc. from the roof, gutters, under the deck and at least 5 feet from the home.
- ◆ **Clean out your clothes dryer.** The air exhaust vent pipe for your dryer should not be restricted; outdoor vent flap should open when dryer is operating. Clothes that have come in contact with flammable substances like gasoline, paint thinner, or similar solvents should be laid outside to dry before they are washed and dried.

If you want more information on how to keep you and your family safe from fire and other hazards, check out the [Public Education](#) section of the NFPA.

When using cleaning supplies, keep the following in mind:

- ⇒ **Follow instructions.** Read label carefully.
- ⇒ **Go mild.** Avoid hazardous cleaning agents if you can.
- ⇒ **Ventilate.** Open windows to circulate fresh air (even in winter) to help prevent chemical or allergic reactions.
- ⇒ **Think green.** Limit toxic exposure by making your own cleaners or using green cleaners. Go to the [U.S. Environmental Protection Agency](#) (EPA) for a list of safe products.
- ⇒ **Keep cleaning products out of reach of children and pets.**
- ⇒ **Be careful when using a bucket.** A few inches of water can be a drowning risk for small children.

A little preparation and care will go a long way. May your spring and summer be filled with lots of fun and excitement!



**Plan +
Preparation
= Safety**

OUR MISSION :
**TO SAFELY PROTECT
THE LIVES AND
PROPERTY OF OUR
COMMUNITY .**



FIRE DEPARTMENT OPERATIONS

ASSISTANT CHIEF HOFFMAN

City of Waukesha Fire Department - 2022 Summary

AUTHORIZED PERSONNEL - 2023

111 Total Positions (109.5 FTE) 104 Sworn / 5.5 Civilian 99 Personnel Assigned to 24 hr Shifts

OPERATING BUDGET

Approved FY-2023 \$15,755,727 FY-2022 \$15,298,522 FY-2021 \$14,485,449.00

2022 Activity		Total Incidents		Fire Dollar Loss		Civilian Fire Victims		
Fire Calls	1,087	2022	9,108	2022	\$1,842,000	2022	2 fatalities	7 injured
EMS Calls	7,641	2021	8,361	2021	\$795,300	2021	0 fatalities	1 injured
Special Services	72	2020	8,042	2020	\$1,119,556	2020	0 fatalities	0 injured
All Other Calls	9308	Apparatus on Duty Everyday				4- Cross Staffed Support Vehicles		
# of Pts. Transported	5,502	3- Engines		5- Ambulances		5- Reserve Apparatus		
Mutual Aid Given	80	2- Ladders		1- Shift Commander		6- Staff Vehicles		
2022 Apparatus Responses				Total Calls By Station Area			Total Calls by Shift	
Unit Description (Fleet Number)	Resp.	Unit Description (Fleet Number)	Resp.	Fire Station 1		2,945	Shift 1	3,133
Engine 1 (204)	2,097	Ambulance 51 (171)	2,876	Fire Station 2		1,772	Shift 2	2,993
Ladder 2 (164)	1,461	Ambulance 52 (181)	1,967	Fire Station 3		1,655	Shift 3	2,982
Engine 3 (191)	1,233	Ambulance 53 (201)	1,827	Fire Station 4		1,633		
Engine 4 (183)	1,307	Ambulance 54 (212)	1,858	Fire Station 5		1,102		
Ladder 5 (211)	1036	Ambulance 55 (161)	1,282	Fire Prevention Bureau Activities				
Battalion 10 (131)	795			Commercial/Residential Inspections				3,778
				Community Outreach-school programs (# ch)				4,700
				FPB Time to Complete Fire Plans Review				8.7

2022 Accomplishments

- 1) We maintained efficient, effective and equitable delivery of emergency response services to the community, responding to 9,108 calls for service (increase of 8.9% overall, from previous year).
- 2) Added a second Division Chief of Training position to our Command Staff; one being responsible for Fire Suppression, Rescue Services, and Safety and the other being responsible for EMS and Health/Wellness. Together, the 2 Division Chiefs of Training are ultimately responsible to ensure our personnel are being adequately trained and that we are maintaining and improving our service levels to fulfill our mission.
- 3) We implemented a Fire Intern Program and successfully recruited individuals to be on-boarded and participate in our maiden sessions. The goal of the intern program is to assist individuals in finding a successful pathway to a career in the fire service with a strong emphasis on career opportunities with the City of Waukesha Fire Department.
- 4) We completed the final phases of the facility upgrades to Fire Station #4. This project crossed over budget years starting with an addition to the square footage of the building and ending with the updates to the exterior finishes of the facility. We maintain our strong commitment to providing the best possible emergency services to our community through constant attention to our facilities, equipment and personnel.



FIRE DEPARTMENT TRAINING OPERATIONS

DIVISION CHIEF RETTLER

The fire department had a unique fire training opportunity this quarter thanks to [Accurate Specialties](#) on Bluemound Rd. We were able to have several valuable trainings during the past few months in a single-family home that was scheduled for demolition on their property.

Crews were able to train on hose movement, searching for victims, victim movement, rescue of firefighters in distress, ladders, and making ventilation openings in the roof.

The grand finale was live fire training. Live fire training in an acquired structure is a rare opportunity in the City of Waukesha. Most buildings donated for training do not meet the requirements to safely provide live fire training while limiting the impact to the community. We were fortunate that the location and condition of this building allowed us to provide this invaluable opportunity to our personnel.

On March 18th we were able to do several evolutions of controlled room fires and had participation from over 30 personnel. Although mother nature gifted us with unseasonably low temperatures, the training was very successful! A much-appreciated warm lunch was provided for crews on site by the [Salvation Army](#) Canteen.



Three newly hired firefighters also completed their 5-week recruit fire academy this past month. They are provided over 240 hours of training in a 5-week Recruit Academy prior to being assigned to work on shift. Training is provided by the 2 Division Chiefs of Training with the assistance of on-duty crews.

FIRE DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL UPDATES

NEW RECRUITS



Badora



MacIntyre




Rodgers

Name	Darold Badora	Matthew MacIntyre	Josh Rodgers
Where did you work before City of Waukesha?	8 years at Pieper Electric as an Occupational Safety Specialist and 2 years at Menomonee Falls Fire Dept	Village of Waukesha Fire Department	Bell Ambulance and Town of Brookfield Fire Department
Outside of work, what do you like to do?	Hunt, fish, action sports, work on cars, travel, music concerts	Play many different sports with my brother & practice with my guitars	Bass fishing, hiking and weight lifting
Favorite Inspirational Quote	"If you fail, never give up. F.A.I.L. means First Attempt in Learning. End is not the end, in fact E.N.D. means Effort Never Dies"	"A person who never made a mistake never tried anything new"	"Good" - Jocko Willink
Do you have any pets?	2 dogs	No, but I have always wanted a few dogs.	Not at the moment, but I want a black lab.
When you were a kid, what did you want to be?	A firefighter	A professional baseball player	An astronaut
Favorite season	Summer & Fall	Summer	Summer
If you were on a deserted island for one month, what 3 things would you take with you?	Fishing pole, coffee & sleeping bag	A tv to watch the Bucks, a fridge & a swimsuit	Fire starter, sleeping bag & water bottle

FIRE DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL UPDATES CONT.

New Recruits, Promotions & Retirements 2023

January		
February		
Recruit Firefighters		
	Darold Badora	February 27, 2023
	Joshua Rodgers	February 27, 2023
	Matthew MacIntyre	February 27, 2023
March		
Retirement		
	John Herrera	Hired 9/30/1996; Promoted to Paramedic 10/1999; Retired on 3/4/2023

(FF - firefighter; PM - paramedic; EO - Equipment Operator; Lt - Lieutenant; BC - Battalion Chief)



Preparation before training.



Training Center

FIRE PREVENTION

The Waukesha Fire Prevention Bureau would like to take this opportunity to discuss the importance of working carbon monoxide detectors in your home. There has been an increase in carbon monoxide poisoning incidents across the country in the last few years. The largest area of increase is due to the use of portable generators.

We are approaching severe weather season in Wisconsin, and power outages can often result due to severe weather. Portable generators are often used during power outages. Portable generators should always be used outdoors.

Individuals should be aware of the wind direction when placing a generator outside of their home. The generator should not be placed by any openings that would allow carbon monoxide to enter the home. It is also not safe to use a generator in a garage with the garage door open. Working carbon monoxide detectors with standby batteries will help prevent carbon monoxide emergencies during a power outage.

If you have any questions about Carbon Monoxide detectors, please contact the Fire Prevention Bureau at 262-524-3648.

1 PORTABLE GENERATOR



can produce as much
carbon monoxide as
hundreds of mid-size cars.

Only use your generator
outdoors and 20 ft away
from your home.

USCPSC CPSC.gov



Carbon Monoxide (CO) The Invisible Killer



CO is an invisible and odorless gas emitted by fuel-burning products, including generators, gas appliances, water heaters, furnaces, charcoal grills, and engine-driven tools.

Generators produce hundreds of times more CO than cars.

More than 80 consumers die each year from CO poisoning caused by portable generators.

African Americans are at Higher Risk for Generator-related CO Death



Percent of Population



Percent of CO Deaths

CO Alarms Save Lives

Install battery-operated CO alarms or CO alarms with battery backup in your home.

Don't be a Victim of CO Poisoning! Follow These Safety Tips:



- **Never operate a portable generator inside** a home, garage, basement, crawlspace, shed or on a porch; and never leave a car running in an attached garage.
- **Operate portable generators outside only, at least 20 feet away from the house, and direct the generator's exhaust away from the home and other buildings.**
- **Ask retailers for a portable generator with a safety feature to shut off automatically** when high CO concentrations are present. Some models with CO shut-off also have reduced emissions.
- **Never burn charcoal inside** a home, garage, vehicle, or tent.



REPORT INCIDENTS to CPSC at:
SaferProducts.gov
(800) 638-2772
or (301) 595-7054
for people with hearing, speech, or language challenges



United States
Consumer Product Safety Commission

NSN-04-022022

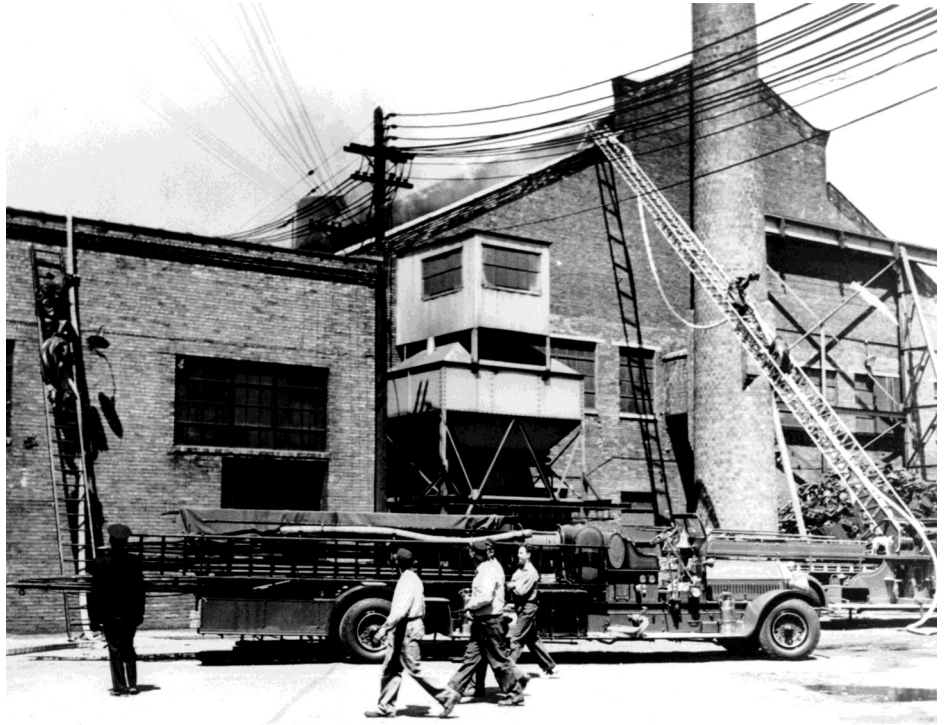
CPSC.gov
f i y t
USCPSC



FIRE DEPARTMENT ARCHIVES

On May 18, 1948, a spectacular roof fire at General Malleable, 706 E. Main Street (current location of Phoenix Heights subdivision) caused more than \$25,000 in damage. The blaze destroyed over two-thirds of the 450' roof. Hampered by dense smoke, firemen had a difficult time breaking through the roof to get at the fire. Workers at the plant joined in the fight. As the flames spread, firemen and more than 100 workmen at the plant sprayed more than 5 streams and used 2200 lf of 2 1/2" hose. A police squad car was sent back to the fire station for more hose. The dense black smoke attracted hundreds of spectators from around the area.

From the book, *Spring City Saviors* by Daniel Carstens



General Malleable roof fire. Showing Truck 1 & Truck 2. Note Sparky the dog on the ladder turntable at far right.



General Malleable roof fire of May 18, 1948.



Every day, millions of people wake up, go to work or school, and take part in social events. But every so often the unexpected happens: an earthquake, a fire, a chemical spill, an act of terrorism or some other disaster. Routines change drastically, and people are suddenly aware of how fragile their lives and routines can be. Each disaster can have lasting effects — people may be seriously injured or killed, and devastating and costly property damage can occur. People entering any public assembly building need to be prepared in case of an emergency.

BEFORE YOU ENTER

- **Take a good look.** Does the building appear to be in a condition that makes you feel comfortable? Is the main entrance wide and does it open outward to allow easy exit? Is the outside area clear of materials stored against the building or blocking exits?
- **Have a communication plan.** Identify a relative or friend to contact in case of emergency and you are separated from family or friends.
- **Plan a meeting place.** Pick a meeting place outside to meet family or friends with whom you are attending the function. If there is an emergency, be sure to meet them there.

WHEN YOU ENTER

- **Take a good look.** Locate exits immediately. When you enter a building you should look for all available exits. Some exits may be in front and some in back of you. Be prepared to use your closest exit. You may not be able to use the main exit.
- **Check for clear exit paths.** Make sure aisles are wide enough and not obstructed by chairs or furniture. Check to make sure your exit door is not blocked or chained. If there are not at least two exits or exit paths are blocked, report the violation to management and leave the building if it is not immediately addressed. Call the local fire marshal to register a complaint.
- **Do you feel safe?** Does the building appear to be overcrowded? Are there fire sources such as candles burning, cigarettes or cigars burning, pyrotechnics, or other heat sources that may make you feel unsafe? Are there safety systems in place such as alternative exits, sprinklers, and smoke alarms? Ask the management for clarification on your concerns. If you do not feel safe in the building, leave immediately.

DURING AN EMERGENCY

React immediately. If an alarm sounds, you see smoke or fire, or some other unusual disturbance immediately exit the building in an orderly fashion.

Get out, stay out! Once you have escaped, stay out. Under no circumstances should you ever go back into a burning building. Let trained firefighters conduct rescue operations.

FACT

A fire at The Station nightclub in W. Warwick, RI, on February 20, 2003, claimed 100 lives and is the fourth-deadliest nightclub fire in U.S. history. Since that fire, NFPA has enacted tough new code provisions for fire sprinklers and crowd management in nightclub-type venues. Those provisions mark sweeping changes to the codes and standards governing safety in assembly occupancies.



**NATIONAL FIRE
PROTECTION ASSOCIATION**
The leading information and knowledge resource
on fire, electrical and related hazards

Your Logo



Hoarding and Fire: Reducing the Risk

Do you have a person in your life who may be a hoarder? Hoarding is a condition where a person has persistent difficulty discarding personal possessions. The large amount of possessions fill the home and prevent the normal use of the space. Living space becomes cluttered. It may be unusable. Hoarding brings distress and emotional health concerns.

WHY HOARDING INCREASES FIRE RISKS

- Cooking is unsafe if flammable items are close to the stove or oven.
- Heating units may be too close to things that can burn. They might also be placed on unstable surfaces. If a heater tips over into a pile, it can cause a fire.
- Electrical wiring may be old or worn from the weight of piles. Pests could chew on wires. Damaged wires can start fires.
- Open flames from smoking materials or candles in a home with excess clutter are very dangerous.
- Blocked pathways and exits may hinder escape from a fire.

HOW HOARDING IMPACTS FIRST RESPONDERS

- Hoarding puts first responders in harm's way.
- Firefighters cannot move swiftly through a home filled with clutter.
- Responders can be trapped in a home when exits are blocked. They can be injured by objects falling from piles.
- The weight of the stored items, especially if water is added to put out a fire, can lead to building collapse.
- Fighting fires is very risky in a hoarding home. It is hard to enter the home to provide medical care. The clutter impedes the search and rescue of people and pets.

How Can You Help Reduce the Risk of Fire Injury

- ✓ When talking a person who hoards, focus on safety rather than the clutter. Be empathetic. Match the person's language. If they call it hoarding, then you can call it hoarding.
- ✓ Help the residents make a home safety and escape plan. Stress the importance of clear pathways and exits. Practice the plan often. Exit routes may change as new items are brought into the home.
- ✓ Install working smoke alarms in the home. Test them at least once a month.
- ✓ Reach out to community resources. Talk to members of the fire department to alert them of your concerns. They may be able to connect you with members of a hoarding task force for additional help.



Your Source for SAFETY Information

NFPA Public Education Division • 1 Batterymarch Park, Quincy, MA 02169

Name of Organization Goes Here

Contact Information Goes Here

April is

911 Education Month

Help Us Help You: Your Guide to Calling 9-1-1 Emergency Services

To best respond to an emergency situation, call takers, dispatchers and first responders need your help. Familiarize yourself and those living or visiting your home with the following tips to ensure that the 9-1-1 call taker will be able to process your emergency call efficiently and send assistance as quickly as possible.

9-1-1 NEEDS TO KNOW WHERE TO GO

- When calling 9-1-1, one of the first things you'll be asked to provide is the location of the emergency you're reporting.
- The call taker may not automatically know your location or may ask you to confirm it.
- Make sure you provide as much detail on your location as possible, such as landmarks, cross streets and mileposts.

KNOW YOUR CELL WELL

- The current 9-1-1 system is designed for voice communications only.
- Texting 9-1-1 is not an option in most locales; you must dial 9-1-1 and speak with a call taker.
- Pull over when driving, if possible. This reduces the chance of a dropped call.
- Lock your keypad when you're not using your phone, so 9-1-1 isn't dialed by mistake. For the same reason, don't put 9-1-1 on speed dial.
- Do not give old phones to children as toys. A wireless phone with no active service can still call 9-1-1.
- If you accidentally call 9-1-1, stay on the line and tell the call taker that you do not have an emergency.
- Calling 9-1-1 from a cell phone is always free and it is never necessary to dial an area code.

9-1-1 IS FOR EMERGENCY USE ONLY

- Call 9-1-1 for emergencies only. It is appropriate to call 9-1-1 when you need to save a life, stop a crime or report a fire.
- 9-1-1 is the right number to call in an emergency

when a prompt response is needed.

- If you are not sure you have an emergency to report, call 9-1-1 and let the call taker decide.

KNOW HOW TO USE 9-1-1 WITH THE PHONE YOU OWN

- Before you need help in an emergency, be sure to understand how the type of phone you use affects your call to 9-1-1. It is important to know the capabilities of the device you are using (landline, cellular, VoIP).
- Cell phones may not automatically tell 9-1-1 where you are so be prepared to provide detailed information about your location.

REMAIN CALM, BE PREPARED

- Try to stay calm, give information and follow all instructions.
- Professional call-takers are trained to get information from you. Listen carefully and answer as concisely as possible.
- Remember that even if the dispatcher is still asking questions or giving instructions, help is on the way.

HELP 9-1-1 HELP YOU

- The more you know what to expect when you call 9-1-1, the faster 9-1-1 can get you the help you need.
- You can save a life! Follow all instructions the 9-1-1 call taker gives you, and don't hang up until the call taker does. If you get cut off, call back and explain that you were cut off.

This information is a public service of The National 9-1-1 Education Coalition.

Distracted Driving Awareness Month

Handle distractions before you drive



While you're still parked:

- 1 Program your route
- 2 Set up your music or podcast
- 3 Silence and put away your phone

Now all you have to do is drive.

Just Drive.

nsc.org/justdrive



911-041 022 ©2023 National Safety Council

May is

National Stroke Month

Know the signs of a stroke! **BE FAST**

BALANCE
EYES
FACE
ARM
SPEECH
TERRIBLE HEADACHE

TIME TO CALL 9-1-1

?ssh!urp
ruilssh?

WISCONSIN COVERDELL
STROKE PROGRAM

May 21st—27th

Happy National
EMS Week!



City of Waukesha Fire Department

130 W. St. Paul Avenue

Waukesha, WI 53188

(262) 524-3651

